

# NEWS RELEASE

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**R. Andrew Murray**  
District Attorney

**January 13, 2011**

## **44 defendants convicted of drug crimes in Superior Court**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Beginning Tuesday, January 3, 2012, and ending Monday, January 9, 2012, the DA's Drug Prosecution Team convicted forty-four defendants in Courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Yvonne Mims Evans and The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judges. The convictions were for crimes that included possessing, selling and trafficking in illegal drugs. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to prison sentences of 70-84 months each for Brandon Gutierrez, 27, and Gregorio Nunez-Raygoza, 32, for trafficking in heroin.

*Note: Almost all guilty pleas entered in criminal administrative court are the result of an agreed upon plea arrangement between the State and the defendant, which is then approved by the sentencing judge. For more information about why most cases must be resolved by plea negotiation instead of jury trial, please visit the "Understanding Criminal Court" section of the DA's website at [www.charmeckda.com](http://www.charmeckda.com).*

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